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G.H. ROWE, Jr.

Park Area Is Urged Near CIA at Langley

The Committee of 100 on the Federal City yesterday asked that a 400-acre area near the new Central Intelligence Agency, at Langley, Va., be made into a park.

The committee said the land, owned by the Bureau of Public Roads, could be added to the George Washington Memorial parkway.

Converting the area to parkland, the committee said, would prevent development of more huge office buildings like the CIA, which the group said has added to congestion in the area; preserve the Potomac gorge and shores, and provide park space for Washington residents.

The Bureau of Public Roads now has its Langley research station on the tract. It originally owned some 600 acres, but deeded about 200 to the CIA.

The bureau would like to consolidate research facilities by adding its only other research group to the Langley tract.

Another branch of the Commerce Department, the Patent Office, has talked of building new quarters on the tract.

Rex M. Whitton, Federal highway administrator, said neither agency had received appropriations for new quarters on the tract.

The chairman of the committee, Neill Phillips, said conversion of the tract would be a "very real and worthwhile start in carrying out the Open Space program endorsed by the Na-

tional Capital Planning Commission and by Secretary of the Interior Udall."

Mr. Phillips said the land legally could be transferred to the NCPC, which controls use of land for the parkway. The Capper-Cramton Act, which established procedures for developing the parkway, also permits such transfers.

Mr. Phillips made his proposal in a letter to Mrs. James H. Rowe, Jr., NCPC chairman. He sent copies to Secretary Udall, National Park Service officials, Representative Broyhill, Republican of Virginia; Senator Harry Byrd, Democrat of Virginia, and members of the NCPC and the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

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